

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 HEW-04 OES-07 SIG-01 DHA-05
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13
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-----007631 080528Z /12

R 080125Z SEP 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
AMCONSUL LENINGRAD
AMEMBASSY BONN

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 214417

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, SWEL, UR, US

SUBJECT: SIXTH WORLD CONGRESS OF PSYCHIATRY CONDEMNS SOVIET
POLITICAL ABUSE OF PSYCHIATRY

REF: STATE 203758

1. DEPARTMENT HAS COMPILED, FOR POSTS' INFORMATION, AN
ACCOUNT OF THE CENSURE OF SOVIET ABUSE OF PSYCHIATRY AT THE
RECENT PROFESSIONAL GATHERING IN HONOLULU. ACCOUNT IS
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DRAWN FROM PRESS REPORTS AND OBSERVATIONS OF DEPARTMENT'S
UNOFFICIAL OBSERVER.

2. DELEGATES TO THE SIXTH WORLD CONGRESS OF PSYCHIATRY
ON SEPTEMBER FIRST, VOTED A SHARPLY WORDED CONDEMNATION
OF SOVIET ABUSE OF PSYCHIATRY FOR POLITICAL PURPOSES.
THE RESOLUTION, PUT FORWARDED BY AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEAL-

AND DELEGATIONS WITH STRONG SUPPORT FROM AMERICAN, BRITISH AND CANADIAN COLLEAGUES, ENJOINS THE WORLD PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATION (WPA), THE INTERNATIONAL PSYCHIATRIC PROFESSIONAL BODY, "TO TAKE NOTE OF THE ABUSE OF PSYCHIATRY FOR POLITICAL PURPOSES AND CONDEMN THOSE PRACTICES IN ALL COUNTRIES IN WHICH THEY OCCUR" AND SPECIFICALLY TO LOOK AT THE "EXTENSIVE EVIDENCE OF THE SYSTEMATIC ABUSE OF PSYCHIATRY FOR POLITICAL PURPOSES" IN THE SOVIET UNION.

INDIVIDUAL PSYCHIATRISTS ARE URGED TO "RENOUNCE AND EX-PUNGE THESE PRACTICES." THE CONGRESS ALSO CREATED A COMMITTEE TO REVIEW CASES OF PSYCHIATRIC ABUSES.

3. CENSURE RESOLUTION WAS PASSED OVER STRENUOUS SOVIET OBJECTIONS, INCLUDING A THREAT TO PULL OUT OF THE WPA. AFTER ATTEMPTING, EARLY IN THE CONGRESS, TO BLOCK ADOPTION OF AN ETHICAL CODE, THE SOVIETS CONCEDED THAT ISSUE AND CONCENTRATED EFFORTS ON PREVENTING CONDEMNATION OF THEM BY NAME.

4. DEPUTY HEALTH MINISTER VENEDIKTOV GAVE A LENGTHY PRESS CONFERENCE ON AUGUST 31ST TO REBUT CHARGES OF SOVIET ABUSES OF THE PROFESSION MADE THE DAY BEFORE IN A SESSION ON "ETHICS IN PSYCHIATRY". EXILED SOVIET PSYCHIATRISTS DR. MARINA VOIKHANSKAYA AND DR. BORIS ZOUBOK AND ONE TIME "PATIENT", EXILED DISSIDENT LEONID PLYUSHCH HAD GIVEN CONFIDENTIAL

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PERSONAL WITNESS TO SOVIET PRACTICES INVOLVING USE OF MENTAL HOSPITALS AS PRISONS FOR POLITICAL OFFENDERS, METHODS OF "TREATMENT" FOR DISSENTERS, ETC. AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE, ACADEMICIAN DR. ANDRE V. SNEZHNEVSKIY, THE SOVIET UNION'S MOST PROMINENT PSYCHIATRIST, SUGGESTED THAT UN-IDENTIFIED GOVERNMENT "AGENCIES" WERE BEHIND THE EFFORTS TO EXPOSE AND CONDEMN SOVIET ABUSES. AFTER PASSAGE OF THE RESOLUTION, THE SOVIET DELEGATION DENOUNCED AS "UNDEMOCRATIC" THE VOTING RULES OF THE CONGRESS. SOVIETS HAVE NOT, HOWEVER, PURSUED THREAT TO PULL OUT OF WPA. VANCE

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 08-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: MHENDERSON:VB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770985/aaaactyo.tel
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Litigation History:
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
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TAGS: PINS, SWEL, UR, US
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